

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 129

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to propose an amendment to Article III of the Constitution of Tennessee, to provide for popular election of a lieutenant governor.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That a majority of all the members of each house concurring, as shown by the yeas and nays entered on their journals, that it is proposed:

That Article III of the Constitution of Tennessee be amended by adding the following language as Section 19:

Section 19.

A lieutenant governor shall be popularly elected by the qualified voters of the state at the same time and for the same term as the governor; and the lieutenant governor's qualifications and the manner and ascertainment of election, in all respects, shall be the same as the governor. A person may be eligible to succeed in office as lieutenant governor for additional four-year terms, provided that no person shall be eligible for election to more than two terms consecutively, including an election to a partial term. The lieutenant governor shall, at stated times, receive compensation for services, which shall not be increased or diminished during the period for which he or she shall have been elected. The lieutenant governor shall temporarily act as the governor while the governor is out of the state or incapacitated for more than seven consecutive days. The lieutenant governor shall perform other duties as the general assembly shall prescribe by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Article III of the Constitution of Tennessee be amended by deleting Section 12 and substituting instead the following:

Section 12.

In case of the removal of the governor from office, or of his death, or resignation, the powers and duties of the office shall devolve on the lieutenant governor; and in case of the death, removal from office, or resignation of the lieutenant governor, the powers and duties of the office shall devolve on the speaker of the senate; and in case of the death, removal from office, or resignation of the speaker of the senate, the power and duties of the office shall devolve on the speaker of the house of representatives.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon ratification of the amendment proposed herein at the 2010 November general election, a popular election for lieutenant governor shall be held at the 2014 November general election and every four (4) years thereafter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the foregoing be referred to the One Hundred Sixth General Assembly and that this resolution proposing such amendment be published by the secretary of state in accordance with Article XI, Section 3 of the Constitution of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the clerk of the senate is directed to deliver a copy of this resolution to the secretary of state.